



# REP. WIN MOSES

## REMEMBERING A FRIEND OF FORT WAYNE

Many of you will remember the devastating flood of 1982, the worst our city had seen in 70 years. At that time I was the Mayor of Fort Wayne. 10,000 children were dismissed from school and came out to fight the floods, day and night, for five days.

It happened that President Reagan was in the Midwest at the time and came to Fort Wayne to offer his support. The President traveled the city with me to see the effects of the flood. He joined our children in filling sand bags at Sherman and Herman Streets, and visited Precious Blood Catholic Church, where evacuees were being housed.

The President was deeply moved by the Children's Crusade, in which thousands of children helped to fill sandbags. Without obligation, these children came together to help fill over one million bags in one week, protecting the Lakeside neighborhood and Northside

High School.

Our city received \$22 million in federal, state and local money to rebuild after the flood. President Reagan was instrumental in guaranteeing \$6 million of that for us.

1982 was also the year that Fort Wayne lost International Harvester, the city's largest employer. It was a tough year for us, but we persevered. Our efforts through that difficult time made us stronger as a city and were recognized when we won the All-American City award in 1983.

It was a great honor to receive this award on behalf of our citizens and to have the opportunity to work with the President when he visited Fort Wayne. While our country reflects upon the life of President Reagan, we of Fort Wayne can remember the man who personally

contributed in our time of need, our friend President Reagan.



In 1983 President Ronald Reagan presented the All-American City award to Mayor Win Moses in the Roosevelt Room of the White House.

# GOOD NEWS

## ADAMS ELEMENTARY SUMMER OFFERING

Adams Elementary School, located on New Haven Avenue in Fort Wayne, is a dynamic learning center that provides instruction so that each child is able to achieve academic success.

This summer Adams Elementary is offering Summer Clubhouse, a program of Fort Wayne Community Schools. This program is an educational, exciting and rewarding experience for the children who attend. The program is designed to reinforce state academic standards and to help students reach their full potential.

When the students attend Summer Clubhouse they have seven different classes which they attend each day. These classes are: healthy living, technology, art, media center, sports and recreation, math, and language arts. It is through these integrated, thematic units and meaningful work that the students are helped in mastering the state standards. The teachers provide the students with an interesting and creative lesson each day.

In addition to going to class, the students also take several field trips. These field trips are educational and introduce the children to some of the historical places in Fort Wayne. Overall, Summer Clubhouse is helping to give several Fort Wayne students a summer that they will always remember.

Adams Elementary is an outstanding Fort Wayne example of giving our students an environment that fosters social, educational and emotional needs.



## RETAINING OUR GRADUATES

Indiana is working to retain its college graduates in two important ways. First, the General Assembly has focused on helping Hoosier students receive a quality education through substantial financial support of Indiana's higher education institutions. In fact, Indiana ranks among the top third of states in terms of appropriations for higher education per capita, despite the critical budget issues we have faced in recent years. The legislature has also dramatically improved the accessibility of Indiana's higher education institutions through our Community College Initiative.

Secondly, our job creation incentives for the state indirectly entice qualified graduates to remain in Indiana to live and work. Energize Indiana and other recent legislative efforts have targeted growing sectors

of the economy: Advance manufacturing, life sciences, information technology and 21st century logistics. If we can create the high demand, high-wage jobs for which students have been trained, they will be more likely to stay in Indiana, and others will be more likely to come here.

- This spring, *Site Selection* magazine ranked Indiana as the number one state for economic development.

- Indiana has led the Midwest and is ninth in the nation in job growth for the past two years.

- The Tax Foundation ranks Indiana first in the Midwest and eleventh in the country for most business-friendly tax climate.

# PROTECTING HOOSIER COMPANIES



Rep. Moses discusses legislation with Rep. Ben GiaQuinta (D-Fort Wayne).

During this legislative session our efforts to promote and protect Indiana business culminated in the passage of House Bill 1080. This bill will stimulate Indiana's economy by providing a price preference to Hoosier businesses for public works and procurement contracts. With this legislation, we focus on Indiana companies first as suppliers for goods and services that the state purchases.

House Bill 1434 supports small, low-income businesses by furnishing access to a Microenterprise Partnership Program. The Program, available to businesses with fewer than five employees, includes grants for training and technical assistance.

These measures are in addition to the economic development package passed during the 2003 session through the Energize Indiana initiative. That legislation included funding for research of new uses of agricultural products and established a pilot program for economic development in rural areas. It also amended our constitution to eliminate the state's inventory tax, which had been putting Hoosier businesses at a disadvantage with outside firms.

## DRAWING IN NEW INDUSTRY

In addition to supporting our existing job base, it is crucial that we look to the future and establish a foundation for industries in emerging fields. In 2003 the legislature:

- Passed a bill that appropriated \$75 million toward the 21st Century Research and Technology Fund for new and emerging high-tech companies which provide high-wage jobs.
- Established Certified Technology Parks in Indiana, encouraging high-technology businesses to locate within specific areas of the state. Seven such parks have been designated across Indiana.
- Passed a bill permitting the Indiana Port Commission to help finance capital improvement projects through flexible financing options. These provide significant advantages for companies seeking to build or expand facilities in Indiana. Estimates for this program indicate the potential for \$100 million in investments in Indiana by the end of the year.

This year we passed House Bill 1365, which makes the state's Research and Development Tax Credit permanent and extends an important Business Investment Tax Credit for two years.

Each of these initiatives is intended to signal the business community that our state is committed to growing our economy here in Indiana.

The United States has lost more than 2 million manufacturing jobs since 2001, with Indiana being among the states hardest hit by the 2001 national recession.

In fact, our national annual trade deficit has hit a record high of over \$450 billion, growing by more than 600 percent in the past ten years.



We at the state level are doing all that we can to prevent the loss of high-paying jobs from Indiana's economy.

We have developed economic incentives to draw in new businesses specializing in various technologies to build a highly skilled, high-wage Hoosier workforce. At the same time, we have worked to retain our current Hoosier businesses and college graduates looking for employment.

These are just some of the steps we have taken in the past two years to strengthen our economy and promote Indiana as a better place to work and raise a family.

# Indiana Legislature Lowers Property Taxes

In the past two years, the General Assembly has enacted legislation which has lowered property taxes for various classifications of taxpayers statewide. In 2002, the legislature:

- Increased the standard homestead deduction from \$6,000 to \$35,000.
- Eliminated 60% of the School General Fund Levy through state-paid Property Tax Replacement Credit.
- Increased the Homestead Credit from 4% to 20%.

In November of 2003, we also passed Senate Bill 1, which made our system of property tax appeals more “user-friendly” and protected homeowners from \$490 million in increased property taxes by limiting local government spending.

Reforms enacted in 2004—which doubled tax deductions for the elderly, blind, disabled, World War I veterans and those who are rehabilitating homes—provided additional property tax protections for some of those who are most in need.

Taxpayers will see the result of the General Assembly's actions in a notice included with our tax bills. The notice outlines the Legislature's recent efforts at substantially reducing the effects of reassessment on an individual's property taxes.

If you have any questions about the deductions you are currently receiving or about those for which you might be eligible, contact the Allen County Auditor.



## State approves \$5 million for Innovation Center



The Northeast Indiana Innovation Center to be built at the corner of St. Joe Road and Stellhorn Road.

I am pleased to announce that the State Budget Committee approved \$5 million for the Northeast Indiana Innovation Center (NIIC). The Center, a not-for profit partner with several state universities, is a catalyst for bio-medical, biotechnical, information technology and advanced manufacturing ventures in northeast Indiana.

Funds will be used to construct a new building to foster the growth of technology jobs in the region. The 40,000 square foot facility will be located across from the IPFW campus at St. Joe Road.

NIIC is Fort Wayne's first Certified Technology Park.

### *State Representative Win Moses: working for you*

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